

BLONDIE



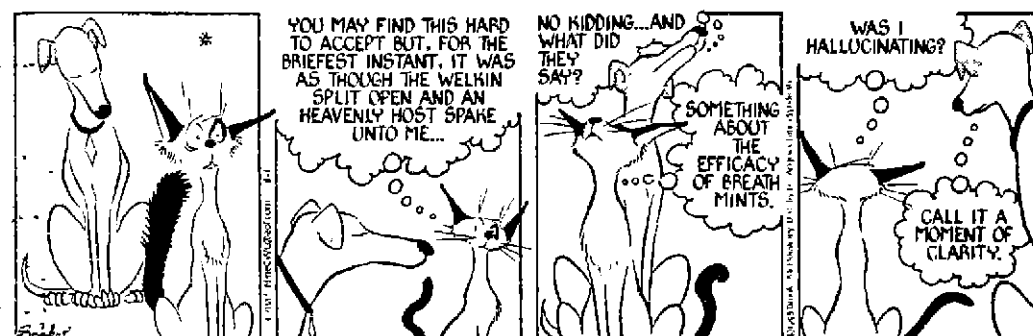
SALLY FORTH



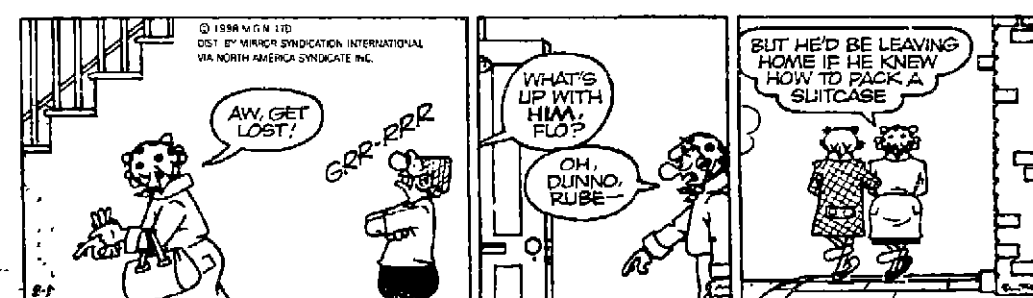
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



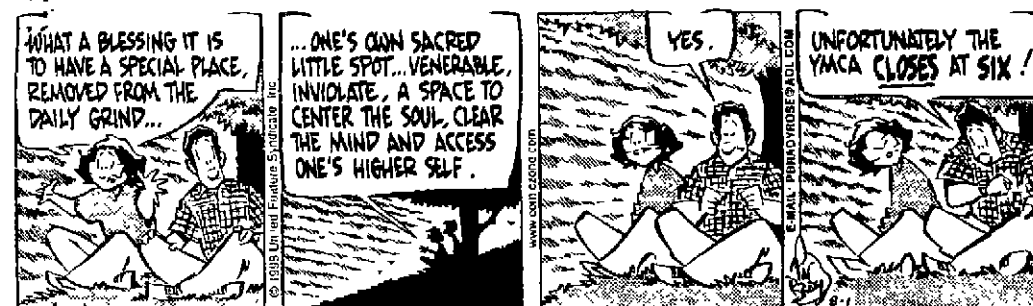
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



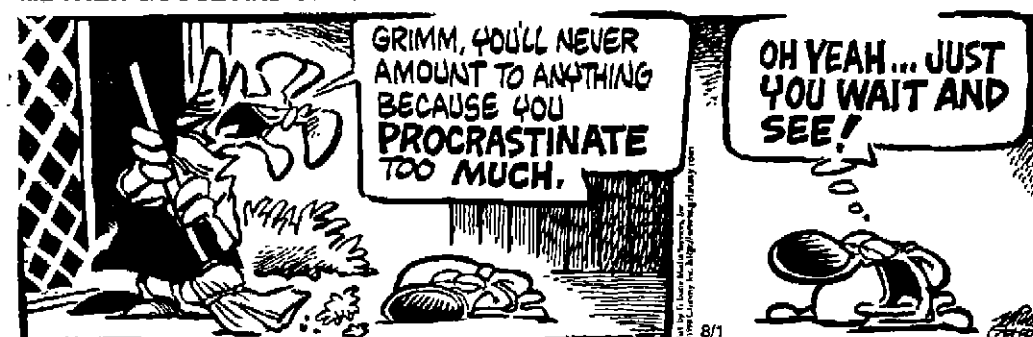
ROSE IS ROSE



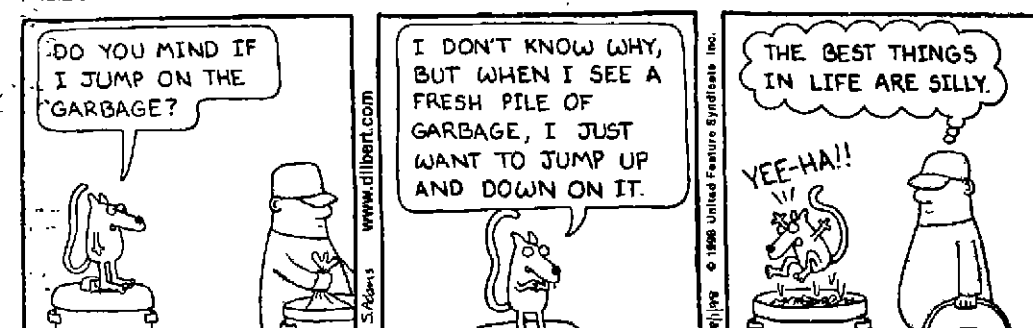
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



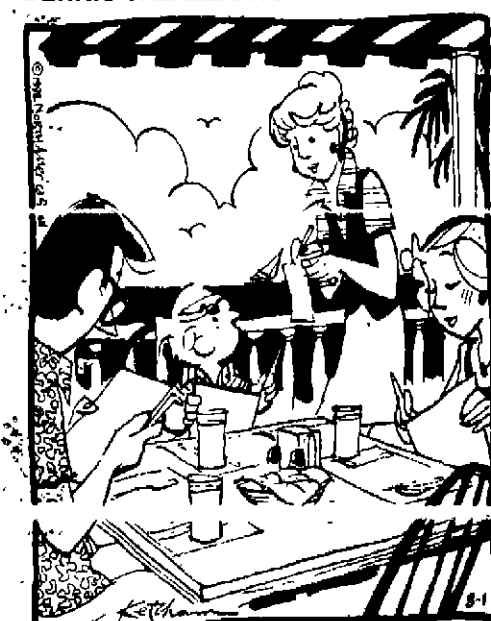
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



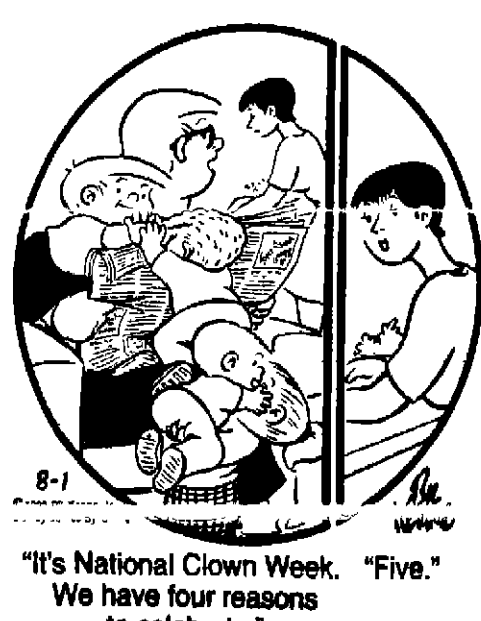
DILBERT



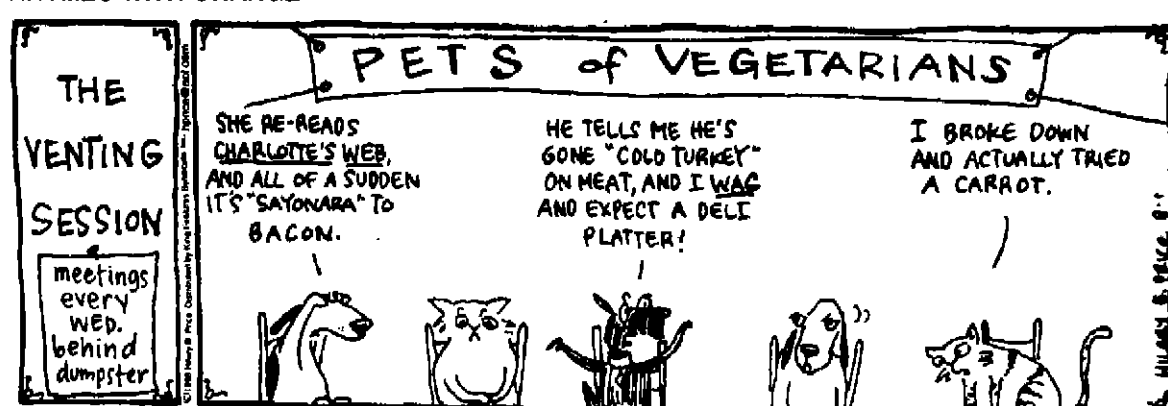
DENNIS THE MENACE



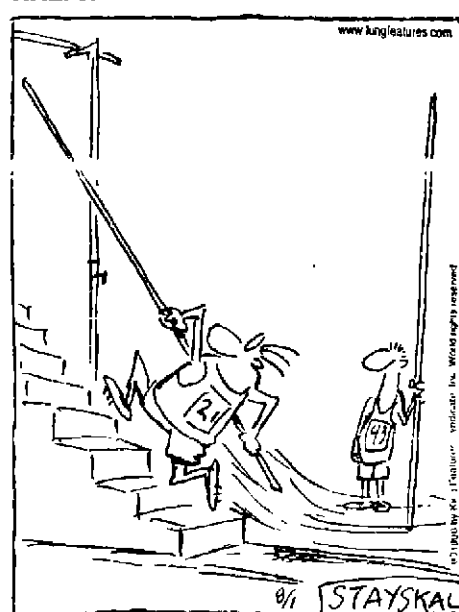
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Singer Ramblin' Jack Elliott is 67. Cartoonist Tom Wilson ("Ziggy") is 67. Actor-comedian Dom DeLuise is 65. Fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent is 62. U.S. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., is 61. Actor Giancarlo Giannini is 56. Blues singer-musician Robert Cray is 45. Rapper Chuck D (Public Enemy) is 38. Rapper Coolio is 35. Country singer George Ducas is 32. Actress Tempestt Bledsoe is 25.

I NEED HELP



Unfortunately, as he grew into old age, Superman's X-ray vision remained good.

SCRABBLE

Directions: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring decisions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). Judd's Solution Tomorrow

PAR SCORE 115-125 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

Directions: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring decisions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). Judd's Solution Tomorrow

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Sunday, Aug. 2, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A judgment is made in your favor, but you might be surprised to find the victory hollow.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Should you become too self-focused, you risk missing an obvious warning signal.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Don't force an analysis of a situation unless you genuinely want to hear the answer. Sometimes there's no reason to ask why.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A sense of sluggishness adds to the trial of getting up a steep hill. Rejuvenate both your mind and body by putting your health first.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Focus on healing divisions instead of creating more with a careless attitude.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) You find it more rewarding to help a project along than to begin a new one afresh. Keep in mind the needs of the group.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) An invitation might feel like the beginning of a whole new chapter. Taking a risk will pay off handsomely.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make sure you're not being seduced by mere promises. If you leap into action, much more will be accomplished.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Freedom is in the air. An unexpected encounter leads to a new adventure. Your laughter makes all around you smile.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Keeping your ideals firmly in mind helps you deal appropriately with a moral dilemma.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) In the company of good friends, nothing is impossible. So should you acquire the keys to the city, be sure to invite the right companions.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) A heavy-handed authority figure might shake you out of a pleasant daydream.

WORD SLEUTH

Words found in Thomas Jefferson

D V R O L I F C Z W T Q N K I
F C Z W S U R P M E J H E C Z
X U S E Q N L J G E T C Z X V
T R T M S M P N L J H A E C A
H O R S E M A N Y W V H N T R
N A P M O H E S N L K O N E R
F I G A E M T R T S C N O B S
Z X W R U S E N O E M O S R P
O M L T S E N R A E R R A J I
G E D B A Y A X O W H U E T S
Q P O N L K J J H F G T R T F

Friday's unlisted clue: SHOE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Saturday's unlisted clue hint: UPPER HOUSE OF CONGRESS

Artem Honor Notes Someone
Earnest Horseman Reason Terms
Farm Janet Reno Theorems
Foremost Master Smart

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

West was on the right track to beating today's spade game. But he went only halfway. His assumptions regarding the club suit were valid; unfortunately, he flubbed his handling of the diamond suit. West led his heart king and wasn't thrilled with what he saw in dummy. Because West was limited to only one heart winner and saw little chance of East's winning more than one club, all reasonable hope lay with winning two diamond tricks. So West made the correct decision to switch to diamonds. He cashed his ace and led his king, but it didn't work. South played low from dummy and won his jack. After drawing trumps, South had to lose to East's club king, but there were no more winners for the defense. West was on target to hope for a club trick from East. (A less likely trump winner would also do.) However, West went wrong when he cashed his diamond ace, hoping to find East with the jack. To defeat the game regardless of who held the jack, West should have led his diamond queen instead of his ace. Dummy wins, but the game must fail. When East wins his club king, he leads a diamond through South's J-6, and the defenders win four tricks for a one-trick set. West's analysis was worthy of some praise. Too bad his execution went only halfway.

NORTH
▲ K Q 10 7
♥ 3
♦ K 8 5
♠ A Q 10 7 5

WEST
▲ 5 4
♥ A K 9 8 5
♦ A Q 10 3
♠ 6 4

EAST
▲ 3 2
♥ Q J 10 6 4
♦ 9 7 4
♠ K 9 2

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: West
The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ Dbl. 3♥* 3♣
Pass 4♠ All pass
*pre-emptive

Opening lead: Heart king

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0620

ACROSS

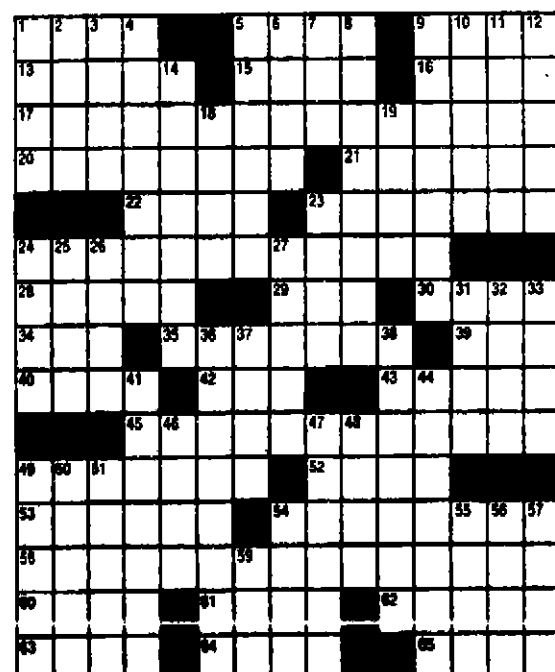
- 1 Parentheses, e.g.
- 5 What partiers raise
- 9 Part of a defense
- 13 Makes a bundle
- 15 Suffix with buck
- 16 Jason's craft
- 17 How Robin Hood won some contests?
- 20 Many surgical procedures
- 21 Fuel gas
- 22 Go ballistic
- 23 TV guides, nowadays
- 24 Dyed brown?
- 26 Settle down
- 28 Mail letters
- 30 Poker player's declaration
- 34 Cobbler's tool
- 35 Kind of nerve
- 36 Hoopla
- 40 Power unit
- 42 Folk rock's DiFranco
- 43 Lit
- 45 Failed as a corn farmer?
- 46 Poetic analogies
- 52 "Arterio-" counterpart
- 53 Mythical character in "The Inferno"
- 54 Of an orbital point
- 56 What Frosty's friends said about him?
- 60 It holds a yard
- 61 Pianist Gilels
- 62 Messenger of Gott
- 63 Cinnabar, taconite, etc.
- 64 Fishing boat
- 65 Fictional surname of 1847

DOWN

- 1 This answer, for instance
- 2 Zany Martha
- 3 Smacker
- 4 Married mujeres
- 5 Cotton Club site
- 6 Love child?
- 7 Blue
- 8 Annual college football award
- 9 Popular cocktail
- 10 Generous donation
- 11 Winery process
- 12 Color or coloratura variations
- 14 They're brilliant
- 15 Certain sauce
- 16 Prefix with focus
- 22 Taken by force, old-style
- 24 Western command
- 25 Part of the Corn Belt
- 26 Airhead

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BRA EPOS HADJI
REST SLAM ICEUP
ONTHETAKE NOVAS
ZOOEY QUESTION
TRIUMPHANT
THEWIRE BOT 100
RIMMER MUR 9070
IRAS INEPT ANON
KENY TER YANAMA
TWOYUANG
DIBETUS SNUFF
DIOBE TRITICAL
NABOB DUNA GUB
UBOON BOON ARI



Puzzle by Cathy N. Davidson

- 27 Egghead
- 28 African country
- 29 One 13th?
- 30 Acceptances
- 31 Rhythmic
- 32 Claire and Selin
- 33 Entablature top
- 34 Gas: Prefix
- 35 Jerk
- 36 Audio translation
- 37 Tricky billiard shot
- 38 Match
- 39 Like some batters
- 40 Violinist Leopold
- 41 Sparky who pitched
- 42 Medical provider grp.

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-800-7-ACROSS.